DEPARTMENT:	**School of International Development & Global Studies (EDIM)**
TERM	Fall 2022
PROFESSOR:	Benjamin Zyla
RESEARCH TITLE:	War in Ukraine, realism, and IR theory
NUMBER OF STUDENTS:	2-4
LANGUAGE:	English, French
ASSIGNMENTS CAN BE SUBMITTED IN FRENCH	**YES**

RESEARCH DESCRIPTION:

How can we explain the start of Russia's aggressive war against Ukraine through the lens of IR theories (or theories of International Relations)? What are the driving forces and motivations of Russia in this war? What role do factors like power, statecraft, international anarchy, public opinion, sense of community play in the conduct of the war?

These are some of the questions that we are trying to find answers to based on insights from established theories of international relations (especially realism, liberalism, constructivism). With the war against Ukraine in its seventh month, scholars have recently returned to older theories of international relations (especially realism and liberalism). Especially realism and its proponents have attracted a lot of attention in recent months (e.g. Walt, Mearsheimer, Kissinger etc.). Our goal is to trace their arguments and discuss their salience. Students will be part of an international research team (with students at Sciences Po Paris, NATO Defence College Rome, Oxford) to study Russia's War against Ukraine with the help of IR theories.

Please send your CV along your application for this course. If you have questions, pls. don't hesitate to contact me at Benjamin.Zyla1@uottawa.ca

KEY LEARNING ACTIVITIES:

This course will allow students to:
- Participate and be a full member of an existing research team
- Expand your research knowledge (methodologies, techniques, analysis, etc.) on IR theories operations
- Learn more about the Russian war against Ukraine
- Increase or validate their interests in graduate studies and gain a first practical experience of social science research;
- Learn how to do a literature review for grad school